#### ORDINANCE NO. 98- 29

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO BE ENTITLED THE "PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE CODE"; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE IV OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION'S PREVENTION CODE (NFPA 1), 1997 EDITION, AND THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION'S LIFE SAFETY (NFPA 101), 1997 EDITION, AND FOR LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO NFPA 1; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY AND ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR A **PROVIDING** CLAUSE; **SAVINGS FOR** SEVERABILITY: PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County, in accordance with Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, adopted a minimum firesafety code, as set out in Chapter 12, Article IV of the Palm Beach County Code (codifying Palm Beach County Ordinance 96-13); and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County recognizes the need to review its firesafety code and to make revisions, additions, deletions, corrections and substitutions to said code, for the purposes of clarification, greater public safety, and to address changing technologies; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Fire Code Advisory Board recommends that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the National Fire Protection Association's Life Safety Code (NFPA 101), 1997 edition, and the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Prevention Code (NFPA 1), 1997 edition, with local amendments as set out in Appendix A attached to this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Article IV of the Palm Beach County Code is hereby repealed in its entirety.

**SECTION 2.** This Ordinance shall be known as the Palm Beach County Fire Code.

SECTION 3. In accordance with the requirements of section 633.025, Florida Statutes, the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Prevention Code (NFPA 1), 1997 edition, as amended in the attached Appendix A, is hereby adopted as the minimum firesafety code for Palm Beach County, and the National Fire Protection Association's Life Safety Code (NFPA 101), 1997 edition, is hereby adopted as part of the minimum firesafety code.

SECTION 4. The provisions of the Palm Beach County Fire Code shall be in full force and effect in Palm Beach County, Florida, within the boundaries of any Fire-Rescue municipal service taxing unit (MSTU) established by ordinance, and within any municipality which has entered into an interlocal agreement for services from any Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue municipal service taxing unit, unless otherwise provided by interlocal agreement.

SECTION 5. The provisions of the Palm Beach County Fire Code and any orders issued pursuant thereto may be enforced under the procedures and penalties of Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, as set forth in Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code ("Code Enforcement Citation System") and section 14.2 of the Palm Beach County Unified Land Development Code ("Enforcement by Code Enforcement Board and/or Special Master"), all as may be amended or recodified from time to time; section 125.69, Florida Statutes, as may be amended or recodified from time to time; or any other means lawfully available for the enforcement of this Code. Additionally, the Fire Official may seek an injunction in circuit court to enforce any order issued pursuant to this Code.

SECTION 6. Repeal of Laws in Conflict: Any laws or ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance which Palm Beach County is authorized to repeal are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 7. Savings Clause: Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 1 and 6 of this Ordinance, all provisions of Chapter 12, Article IV of the Palm Beach County Code (codifying Palm Beach County Ordinance 96-13), as originally enacted and amended, are specifically preserved, and shall remain in full force and effect, for the limited purpose of enforcing any alleged violations of said law which occurred prior to its repeal.

SECTION 8. Severability: If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held by a court to be unconstitutional, inoperative or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of Palm Beach County, Florida. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or any other appropriate word.

SECTION 10. Effective Date: This Ordinance shall become effective on August 1, 1998.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Boar	rd of County Commissioners of Palm Beach
County, Florida, on the 21 day of July	, 1998.
DOROTHY H. WILKEN, CLERK BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
By: Michie Dundly County  APPROVED AS TO FORM AND FLORIDA  LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  BY: Sham Burrows  County Attorney	Burt Aaronson, Chairman Vice - Chair Maude Ford Lee
Filed with the Department of State on the 28th	day of _July, 1998.

# PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE CODE

Adoption of:

National Fire Protection Association's Fire Prevention Code - N.F.P.A. 1 1997 Edition, with Local Amendments

and

Adoption of:

National Fire Protection Association's
Life Safety Code - N.F.P.A. 101
1997 Edition, Incorporated Herein by Reference

Effective: August 1, 1998

Palm Beach County, Florida

# Chapter 1 Administration & Enforcement

#### 1-1 Title.

NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code, 1997 edition, is hereby adopted by reference as if set out in its entirety herein and shall serve as the primary organizational format for this Code. NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code, 1997 edition as amended in the following chapters and sections and NFPA 101, Life Safety Code 1997 edition, shall constitute and be known as and may be cited as the "Palm Beach County Fire Code" hereinafter referred to as "this Code".

#### 1-3 Scope

Exception No. 1: The scope shall not apply to detached one (1) and two (2) family dwellings for sections (a), (c), (e), (g), and (k). Exception No. 2: Single occupancy and non-commercial agricultural structures on property zoned for single family dwellings.

- 1-4.1.1. The provisions of this Code shall be in full force and effect in Palm Beach County, Florida, within the boundaries of any Fire-Rescue M.S.T.U. established by ordinance, and within any municipality which has entered into an interlocal agreement for services from any Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue municipal service taxing unit, unless otherwise provided by interlocal agreement.
- 1-4.1.2 There is hereby established a fire prevention bureau, The Bureau of Safety Services (B.O.S.S.), which shall be under the direction of the AHJ. The functions of this bureau are to be; (A) to inspect all buildings according to the schedule in Table 1-4.1.2 of this Code for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any violations of the provisions of this code, (B) to review plans to assure compliance with this Code, (C) to investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of any fire, and (D) to provide public education in the areas of fire and life safety.

# TABLE 1-4.1.2 SCHEDULE OF FIRE INSPECTIONS

Buildings subject to this code are to be inspected to assure fire code compliance per the following schedule:

Occupancy Type	Specific	Inspection Cycle
	<b>Property Use</b>	
	Number *	
Public Assembly	100-189	annual
Educational	200- 249	annual
Institutional	300-369	annual
Multi-Family	422	tri-annual (3 to 6 units
Residential		with common area)
Multi-Family	423	annual (7 to 20 units)
Residential		
Multi-Family	424	annual (over 20 units)
Residential	•	
Multi-Family	428	Every five (5) years
Residential		(3 to 6 units without
		common area)
Hotel/Motel	430-449	annual
	460-469	
Stores	511-580	annual
Offices	590-599	bi-annual
Industrial	600-649	annual
	660-689	
Manufacturing	700-799	annual
Storage	800-899	bi-annual
Special Properties	900-989	annual

[\*] 'Specific Property Use' numbers in this table are based on NFPA 901, "Uniform Coding for Fire Protection", 1995 Edition.

Additional inspections may be scheduled by the Fire Official based on new construction, alteration of building construction or occupancy, or in response to complaints or observed fire code violations.

- 1-4.1.3 Before conducting an inspection of a building, structure or premises, the authority having jurisdiction shall gain consent from the owner, his representative, or other person having charge or control of the building, structure, or premises, except during emergency conditions as defined in section 1-4.6.
- **1-4.1.4** If consent is not granted, the authority having jurisdiction shall obtain an inspection warrant as provided for in Florida Statutes, section 933.20 through 933.30.
- 1-4.10 The authority having jurisdiction shall have the authority to investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of any fire, explosion, or other hazardous condition. The authority having jurisdiction shall have the authority to take custody of all physical evidence relating to the cause of the fire, explosion, or other hazardous condition. Florida's Public Record Law shall govern what information will be made part of the public record.
- 1-4.14.1 The authority to order immediate evacuation of an occupied building, as provided in 1-4.14, or the summary abatement of a hazardous condition, as provided in 1-4.5, shall reside only with the AHJ or his designee. The immediate evacuation or summary abatement shall be limited to the action necessary to remove or remedy the imminently hazardous condition. Such order shall be immediately effective and shall recite with particularity the facts supporting the immediate evacuation or summary abatement.
- 1-4.14.2 Anyone whose property interests are adversely affected by the summary abatement or immediate evacuation shall be entitled to a subsequent hearing before the Board of Adjustments and Appeals, as is established by section 1-7 of this Code. Upon the Board's receipt of a written notice requesting a hearing with respect to an immediate evacuation or summary abatement, the Board shall set such a hearing for a date no latter than five (5) working days from the Board's receipt of the written notice. The Board's written decision, with its supporting factual findings, shall be mailed by certified mail to the appellant within two (2) working days after the hearing. In all other respects, the procedures of section 1-7 shall apply.

- 1-4.17 Permitting and Inspection. The inspection or permitting of any building or plan by any jurisdiction under the requirements of this Code shall not be construed as a warranty of the physical condition of such building or the adequacy of such plan. No jurisdiction nor any employee thereof shall be liable in tort for damages for any defect or hazardous or illegal condition or inadequacy in such building or plan, nor for any failure of any component of such building, which may occur subsequent to such inspection or permitting, pursuant to this code.
- 1-4.18 Administrative Orders. From time to time, when deemed necessary, the Fire Marshal, with the approval of the Fire-Rescue Administrator, may draft administrative orders for the purpose of clarifying and carrying out the intent of this code. All Administrative Orders shall be on file in the office of the Fire Marshal. Additional copies shall be kept at the Plans Review Office and the Inspection Office for distribution to the public. Such orders shall be enforced as if a part of this code and be in full effect upon approval of the Fire Administrator.
- 1-5.4 Referenced Standards. Standards referenced in this Code shall be considered an integral part of this Code without separate adoption. If specific portions of a standard are denoted by the Code text, only those portions of the standard shall be enforced. Where Code provisions conflict with a standard, the most stringent Code provisions shall be enforced. Permissive and advisory provisions in a standard shall not be construed as mandatory.

#### 1-5.10 Validity.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Code is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Code.

**1-6.5** All fire safety systems, equipment, and devices installed in lieu of or as an alternative to other code requirements, as permitted by this code, shall be considered required systems, and shall comply with the appropriate standard.

### 1-7 Board of Appeals and Adjustments.

1-7.1 General. Whenever it is claimed that the provisions of this Code do not apply, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of this Code or any of the regulations thereunder have been misconstrued or misapplied, the owner or his duly authorized agent may appeal the decision of the AHJ to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments. Notice of appeal shall be in writing and filed within 30 days after the decision is rendered by the AHJ. Appeals shall be on forms provided by the AHJ.

# 1-7.2 Board of Appeals and Adjustments Created.

There is hereby created a Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments, herein after referred to as the "Board", consisting of nine (9) members who are qualified by training and experience to vary the application of the provisions of this code, and act on related matters, and to perform such other duties as established herein. The Board shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. All members must reside within Palm Beach County at the time of appointment and while serving on the Board and shall be qualified electors of Palm Beach County. The Board shall adopt rules and regulations for conducting its business. A quorum for said Board shall be a majority of the total membership of the Board. The AHJ shall designate a representative to act as Secretary to the Board.

### 1-7.3 Recommendations to Board of County Commissioners.

The Board shall review this Code and make recommendations, in the form of specific amendments, to the Board of County Commissioners for corrections, additions, substitutions or deletions to said Code for the purposes of clarification, applicability, public safety, and changes in technology, so as to maintain this Code as an effective and responsive document.

- **1-7.4 Composition.** The composition of the Board of Appeals and Adjustments shall be as follows:
  - a. One (1) registered engineer, practicing in the mechanical field.
  - b. One (1) registered engineer, practicing in the fire protection field.
  - c. One (1) Florida or Palm Beach County certified general contractor.
  - d. One (1) representative of the insurance field.
  - e. One (1) certified fire sprinkler contractor.
  - f. One (1) citizen of Palm Beach County, not eligible under other membership categories.
  - g. One (1) registered architect.
  - h. One (1) Palm Beach County municipal building official
  - i. One (1) Palm Beach County municipal fire service representative

Where a member is required to be registered or certified, same shall be issued by the State of Florida unless otherwise specified.

- 1-7.5 Vote Calculation. Each member shall have a full vote.
- 1-7.6 Term. The members shall serve three (3) year terms. There shall be no limit on the number of terms an individual may serve.
- 1-7.6.1 Delete
- 1-7.6.2 Delete
- 1-7.7 Removal/Absences. All members shall be subject to the rules, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, governing Board participation and attendance.
- 1-7.8 Fire Code Advisory Board. When sitting solely in its advisory capacity, the Board shall be known as the Fire Code Advisory Board and shall be composed of the same members as the Board of Appeals and Adjustments. Persons appointed to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments shall be deemed to be likewise appointed to the Fire Code Advisory Board.

### 1-7.9 Procedures on Appeal.

1-7.9.1 Hearing. Upon receipt of the notice of appeal by the Board, a hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, with notice to the appellant, the AHJ, and the members of the Board, at least five (5) working days prior to said hearing. Special meetings may also be called by the Board provided that five (5) working days notice is given to both parties. If the applicant requires a special meeting to be called, the appeal fee shall be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). Both the appellant and the Fire Marshal, or their representatives, shall attend the hearing and may present evidence at same. The Board shall consider each appeal on its own merits and shall base its decision only on the evidence presented at said hearing.

1-7.9.2 Board Action. The Board, upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes present, shall either 1. affirm the decision of the Fire Marshal, 2. modify the decision of the Fire Marshal or 3. affirm the position of the appellant. The Board's decision, with the reasons therefor, shall be in writing and a copy shall be mailed, by certified mail, to the appellant, within ten (10) days after the hearing. All such decisions shall be final, subject to judicial review as provided by law.

1-7.9.3 Tie Vote. In the event the Board is deadlocked in a tie vote, the appellant may request the Board to defer final action until the next regular meeting date or a specific date certain. The appellant shall be entitled to one (1) such deferral as of right. The matter shall be deferred and heard de novo, unless the majority then present at the time deferral is requested vote for the matter to be determined upon the record only for the upcoming hearing after deferral.

#### 1-7.10 Decisions.

1-7.10.1 Variances. The Board may vary the application of any provision of this Code to any particular case when, in its opinion, the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice, and would be contrary to the spirit and purpose of this Code or public interest, or when, in its opinion the interpretation of the AHJ should be modified or reversed.

- 1-7.10.2 Action. The Board shall, in every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay. If a decision of the Board of Adjustments and Appeals reverses or modifies a refusal, order, or disallowance of the AHJ, or varies the application of any provision of the Code, the AHJ shall immediately take action in accordance with such decisions.
- 1-7.11 Fire Marshal Order Stayed, Exception. Pending the disposition of an appeal scheduled for hearing, the order or decision of the Fire Marshal sought to be appealed shall be stayed unless the Fire Marshal certifies under oath, based upon available data, that an extreme danger to life or property exists, warranting immediate compliance under this Code. Said certification must be included in the order and be filed with the Board within ten (10) days after the notice of appeal is filed.

#### 1-7.12 Conflict Resolution

- 1-7.12.1 The enabling authority of the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals and the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments shall be amended to grant the Board authority to hear those matters and render decisions in accordance with Section 553.73(8), Florida Statutes, regarding conflict between the applicable minimum building code and the applicable minimum fire safety code.
- **1-7.12.2** The duties and functions of the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals and the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments shall be amended to include the following:
- a. To entertain appeals of decisions made jointly by the local AHJ and the local building official, in accordance with Section 553.73(8), Florida Statutes.
- b. To resolve conflicts between the building code and the fire code, in accordance with Section 553.73(8), Florida Statutes.
- 1-7.12.3 The Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals and the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments shall rotate the duty to fulfill the functions as set forth herein and in Section 553.73(8), Florida Statutes on an annual basis.

**1-8.1 Existing** conditions not in strict compliance with this Code may be permitted to continue, if in the opinion of the -AHJ, these conditions do not constitute a distinct hazard to life or property.

#### 1-13.4 Annual Certification of Central Stations.

- **1-13.4.1** Central stations shall certify to the AHJ, that they meet the following requirements:
  - That the central station maintains a listing for monitoring fire alarm systems, under the requirements of UL-827;
  - 2. That the central station provides and maintains two independent means to retransmit a fire alarm signal from a protected premises to the Fire-Rescue Dispatch Center. The primary means of re-transmission shall be supervised so that interruption of a re-transmission circuit communication integrity will result in a trouble signal at the central station; and
  - 3. That the central station maintains a local phone number within the area of the fire department dispatch center, or provides the fire department with a toll free number, by which the fire department can contact the central station.

The required certification shall be forwarded to the AHJ between October 1st and November 30th, on an annual basis or immediately on change of any of the criteria as required in this section.

- **1-13.4.2** Central stations which do not provide the acceptable certification to the AHJ shall not monitor required fire alarm systems within the fire department's jurisdiction.
- 1-13.4.3 Central stations which monitor required alarm systems shall maintain a record of inspections and repairs, in a form as prescribed by the AHJ. Said records are to be located at the main fire alarm control panel of each protected premises, with copies maintained at the central station facility.

#### 1-13.5 Excessive False Alarms.

1-13.5.1 Maximum No. of False Alarms in a 12 Month Period. The transmission of more than three (3) false alarm signals by an automatic fire detection system or a medical alarm system within a

twelve (12) month time period, said period of time being October 1 thru September 30 of the following year, is excessive. No person shall permit, cause or fail to prevent the transmission of, for any reason, by an automatic fire detection system or a medical alarm system used by him, or such system serving a premises of a building occupied and controlled by such person, more than three (3) false alarm signals within a twelve (12) month period of time.

1-13.5.2 Charges for Excessive False Alarms in Residential Structures. The activation of four (4) or more false alarms within a twelve (12) month period will be handled according to the following:

- A) For the fourth through sixth false alarm, the alarm user shall be billed a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- B) For the seventh through ninth false alarm, the alarm user shall be billed a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- C) For the tenth and each successive false alarm within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user shall be billed a three hundred dollar (\$300.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- D) The tenth and each successive false alarm within a twelve (12) month period shall be determined to be a public nuisance. In this event the AHJ may (1) process a complaint for each occurrence to the Palm Beach County Code Enforcement Board for corrective action, or (2) enter into an agreement with the owner to implement appropriate corrective action to remedy said nuisance(s). Funds documented as expended by the owner for corrective action, shall, upon receipt of documentation by the AHJ, be deducted from the debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department for excessive false alarms.

E) The provisions of this section shall not apply to required alarm systems for an initial period of two (2) months from the date the fire alarm system is accepted by the AHJ.

The AHJ shall determine the number and frequency of such false alarm signals and notify the alarm user of amounts owed and shall make demand thereof, pursuant to the provisions of this Code. The County may initiate proceedings to collect said fines after demand thereof has been made by the AHJ.

1-13.5.3 Charges for Excessive False Alarms in Commercial Structures. The activation of four (4) or more false alarms within a twelve (12) month period will be handled according to the following:

- A) For the fourth through sixth false alarm, the alarm user shall be billed a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- B) For the seventh through ninth false alarm, the alarm user shall be billed a five hundred dollar (\$500.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- C) For the tenth and each successive false alarm within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user shall be billed a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) service charge per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department.
- D) The tenth and each successive false alarm within a twelve (12) month period shall be determined to be a public nuisance. In this event the AHJ may (1) process a complaint for each occurrence to the Palm Beach County Code Enforcement Board for corrective action, or (2) enter into an agreement with the owner to implement appropriate corrective action to remedy said nuisance(s). Funds documented as expended by the owner for corrective action, shall, upon receipt of documentation by the AHJ, be deducted from the debt owed to the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department for excessive false alarms.

E) The provisions of this section shall not apply to required alarm systems for an initial period of two (2) months from the date the fire alarm system is accepted by the AHJ.

The AHJ shall determine the number and frequency of such false alarm signals and notify the alarm user of amounts owed and shall make demand thereof, pursuant to the provisions of this Code. The County may initiate proceedings to collect said fines after demand thereof has been made by the AHJ.

- 1-17.1 Plan Review. The AHJ shall examine or cause to be examined all plans for construction, alteration or remodeling of any structure, except one and two family detached dwellings, including any installed system, and shall ascertain by such examination whether the construction indicated and described is in compliance with the requirements of this Code. Such plans shall include, but not be limited to, construction drawings, specifications, computations and additional data as deemed necessary by the AHJ. All project site plans shall be reviewed under the provisions of the applicable sections of this Code.
- 1-17.6 If the plans submitted for review do not conform to the requirements of this Code or other fire related laws or ordinances, the AHJ shall reject said plans and, provide in writing the reason(s) for rejection. Plans must then be re-submitted for review in accordance with the Building Department policies and procedures.
- 1-17.7 For all work for which plans must be reviewed, as set forth in Section 1-17.1 of this Code, and for all services associated therewith, a fee shall be paid as required at the time of submission of the plans or as required services are performed. For all inspections conducted pursuant to Section 1-4.1.2 of this Code, a fee shall be imposed for each building, based upon fixed property use. All fees shall be in accordance with the current Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Fee Schedule (Table 1-17.7).

# TABLE 1-17.7 PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE FEE SCHEDULE

#### I. Plan Review Fees

**A.** The following formula, which is based on the valuation of the proposed work, shall be used to determine plans review fees.

Each triplex or four-unit residential structure.

\$225.00 flat fee.

\$0.00 up to \$25,000.00

Charge 0.5% total valuation of work. (This works out to \$5.00 per thousand dollars of value.)

\$25,001.00 to \$100,000.00 Charge \$125.00 for the first \$25,000.00 and then charge 0.25% of the balance of the value. (This works out to be \$2.50 per thousand dollars value for the balance.)

\$100,001.00 to \$500,000.00.

Charge \$312.50 for the first \$100,000.00 and then charge 0.125% of the balance of value. (This works out to be \$1.25 per thousand dollars of the value for the balance.)

\$500,001.00 to \$1,000,000.00

Charge \$812.50 for the first \$500,000.00 and then charge 0.0625% of the balance of the value. (This works out to be \$0.625 per thousand dollars of value for the balance.)

\$1,000,000.01 and up.

Charge \$1,138.50 for the first million and then charge 0.03125% of the balance of the value. (This works out to be \$0.3125 per thousand dollars of value for the balance.)

# **B.** Set forth below are examples of valuations and estimated correlating fees.

ESTIMATED	PLAN REVIEW FEES
VALUATION	
\$4,000.00 and	\$20.00
under	
100,000.00	312.50
200,000.00	437.50
300,000.00	562.50
400,000.00	687.50
500,000.00	812.50
600,000.00	875.00
700,000.00	937.50
800,000.00	1,000.00
900,000.00	1,062.50
1,000,000.00	1,125.00
1,100,000.00	1,156.25
1,200,000.00	1,187.50

### C. Design Review

A fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars will be charged for design review of drawing or specification. This amount may not be refunded.

#### D. Civil Drawings

A fee of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars will be charged for the plans review of all civil drawings.

#### E. Water Flow Tests

A fee of seventy-five (\$75.00) dollars shall be paid for all flow tests performed by Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue.

#### F. Plan Revisions

The following fees shall apply to the various revisions and related services.

1) Pre-Permit Minor

No charge.

Revision:

2) Pre-Permit Major

10% of the original fee.

Revision:

3) Post-Permit Revision:

\$5.00 per page, with a minimum fee of \$20.00, except when value increases

(then see schedule).

4) Restamp:

\$2.50 per page with a

minimum fee of \$10.00.

5) Invalid Permits:

30% of the original fee. If construction has commenced, payment of a fee for the remaining construction is based on the original

schedule.

#### II. INSPECTION FEES:

The schedule for inspections, per building, based on fixed property use, shall be as follows:

A. PUBLIC ASSEMBLY:	
50 - 299 seating capacity	55.00
300 - 1,000 seating capacity	75.00
1,001 - 5,000 seating capacity	150.00
5,001 and over seating capacity	200.00
B. EDUCATIONAL:	
Day Care Nursery	35.00
All Others	75.00

# II. INSPECTION FEES: CONT.

C. INSTITUTIONAL:	
5,000 sq. ft. and under	50.00
5,001 - 15,000 sq. ft.	100.00
15,001 - 30,000 sq. ft.	150.00
30,001 - 100,000 sq. ft.	200.00
100,001 - 200,000 sq. ft.	250.00
200,001 - 500,000 sq. ft.	300.00
500,001 - and over	350.00
D. HOTEL/MOTEL:	
Under 25 units/rooms	55.00
25 - 100 units/rooms	75.00
101 - 500 units/rooms	150.00
501 - and over	200.00
E. STORES, OFFICES, STORAGE	
FACILITIES:	
5,000 sq. ft. and under	35.00
5,001 - 15,000 sq. ft.	75.00
15,001 - 30,000 sq. ft.	150.00
30,001 - 100,000 sq. ft.	175.00
100,001 - 200,000 sq. ft.	200.00
200,001 - 500,000 sq. ft.	250.00
500,001 - and over	300.00
F. INDUSTRIAL, MANUFACTURING	
FACILITIES:	
5,000 sq. ft. and under	65.00
15,001 - 30,000	150.00
30,001 ← 100,000 sq. ft.	175.00
100,001 - 200,000 sq. ft.	200.00
200,001 - 500,000 sq. ft.	250.00
500,001 - and over	300.00
G. TEMPORARY STRUCTURES:	
All	35.00
H. COMMERCIAL LP GAS FACILITIES:	
ALL	55.00

#### II. INSPECTION FEES: CONT.

I. OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING	
INSPECTIONS:	
All Residential	25.00
All Commercial	35.00
J. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FACILITIES:	
5,000 sq. ft. and under	75.00
5,001 - 15,000 sq. ft.	125.00
15,001 - 30,000 sq. ft.	175.00
30,001 - 100,000 sq. ft.	250.00
100,001 - 200,000 sq. ft.	300.00
200,001 - 500,000 sq. ft.	350.00
500,001 - and over	400.00

#### III. Reinspections:

There shall be a twenty-five (\$25.00) charge for reinspections which require an additional, third or more, trip to a building or job site by a Fire Inspector. This fee shall be applicable to New Construction and Existing Inspections.

#### IV. Refunds:

Refunds may be granted in accordance with this section. Refunds will be granted only on plan review fees in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). For plan review fees in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), fifty (50) percent of the fee is refundable on valid application and permits. No refund shall be granted once work has commenced.

#### V. Failure to obtain a permit:

The plan review fee shall be four (4) times that specified in this table, should work commence prior to the fire plan review and approval as required by the fire official.

1-17.8 The permit holder or his agent shall notify the AHJ to conduct the following inspections of buildings and such other inspections as may be necessary. The AHJ shall either approve that portion of the

construction or shall notify the permit holder or his agent of any correction to be made to comply with this Code.

- 1. Frame Inspection: To be made at the time of Building Department inspection. Items to be inspected shall include, but not be limited to: fire hydrant locations, Fire Department access, rough-ins for stair dimensions, egress windows, smoke detector locations and fire alarm device locations.
- 2. Fire Protection Systems: To be inspected and tested upon completion of that system or portion of system prior to final fire safety inspection.
- 3. Final Fire Safety Inspection: To be made upon completion of the building and all installed systems.
- 1-17.9 Once all provisions of this Code have been met, a letter of Fire Code Compliance shall be issued by the AHJ to the Building Official prior to the Building Official issuing a Certificate of Occupancy for the premises for which the building permit had been issued.
- 1-18.5 The provisions of this Code and any orders issued pursuant thereto may be enforced under the procedures and penalties of Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, as set forth in Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code ("Code Enforcement Citation System") and section 14.2 of the Palm Beach County Unified Land Development Code ("Enforcement by Code Enforcement Board and/or Special Master"), all as may be amended or recodified from time to time; section 125.69, Florida Statutes, as may be amended or recodified from time to time; or any other means lawfully available for the enforcement of this Code. Additionally, the AHJ may seek an injunction in circuit court to enforce any order issued pursuant to this Code.
- 1-18.6 The AHJ, and such fire safety inspectors that he may designate, are hereby designated as code enforcement officers for the purpose of issuing citations under the Code Enforcement Citation System set forth in Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code, as may be amended or recodified from time to time.

### 1-19 Requirements Not Covered by Code.

Where provisions of this Code do not address specific situations involving protection of life and property from the hazards of fire, smoke and explosion, compliance with nationally accepted standards of good practice shall be evidence of compliance with the intent of this Code.

# Chapter 2 Definitions

#### 2-1.1 Tense, Gender and Number.

For the purpose of this Code, certain abbreviations, terms, phrases, words and their derivatives shall be construed as set forth in this Chapter. Words used in the present tense include the future tense. Words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter. Words in the feminine and neuter gender include the masculine. The singular number includes the plural and plural number includes the singular.

#### 2-1.2 Words Not Defined.

Words not defined herein shall have the meanings stated in NFPA Standards, Standard Building Code, Standard Mechanical Code, Standard Plumbing Code, or Standard Gas Code and/or Webster's 10th New Collegiate Dictionary, as revised.

#### 2-1.3 Additional Definitions

### Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) - The Fire Official

Costs- those necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by the County in connection with investigating, mitigating, minimizing, removing or abating discharges of hazardous substances, including, but not limited to, the following: Actual labor expenses of County personnel or its authorized agents; expenses of equipment operation and rental; and expenses of expendable items including, but not limited to, fire fighting foam, chemical

extinguishing agents, absorbent material, sand, recovery drums, acid suits, acid gloves, goggles and protective clothing.

### E.P.A. - Environmental Protection Agency.

**Fire Division** - A portion of a building so separated from the rest by fire-walls that it may be erected to the maximum height and area allowed for the governing occupancy and the type of construction, independently of adjoining occupancies or types of construction. Reference the Standard Building Code.

**Sealed Container -** Non-opened sealed containers conforming to ICC/DOT standards for shipping. (Once a container has been opened and the manufactured seal is broken, it can not be resealed to meet the standard required by this code.)

# Chapter 3 General Provisions

### 3-1.7 Overcrowding.

The number of occupants of any building or portion thereof shall not be permitted to exceed the allowed or posted capacity, determined in accordance with this Code.

### 3-2 Electrical Fire Safety

#### 3-2.1 Scope

**3-2.1.1** This chapter shall apply to the permanent or temporary use of electrical appliances, fixtures, motors, or wiring.

Exception: Low-voltage wiring such as communication and signal wiring.

**3-2.1.2** This chapter shall be enforced in cooperation with the authority having jurisdiction for the enforcement of the electrical code.

#### 3-2.2 Abandonment of Electrical Hazards

3-2.2.1 When any electrical hazards are identified, measures to abate such conditions shall be taken. All identified electrical

conditions in permanent wiring shall be brought to the attention of the authority enforcing the electrical code.

- **3-2.2.2** Open junction boxes and open wiring splices shall be prohibited. Approved covers shall be provided for all switch and electrical outlet boxes.
- **3-2.3 Electrical Motors.** All electrical motors shall be maintained in a manner free from accumulations of oil, waste and other debris which will interfere with required motor ventilation or create a fire hazard.

#### 3-2.4 Extension Cords

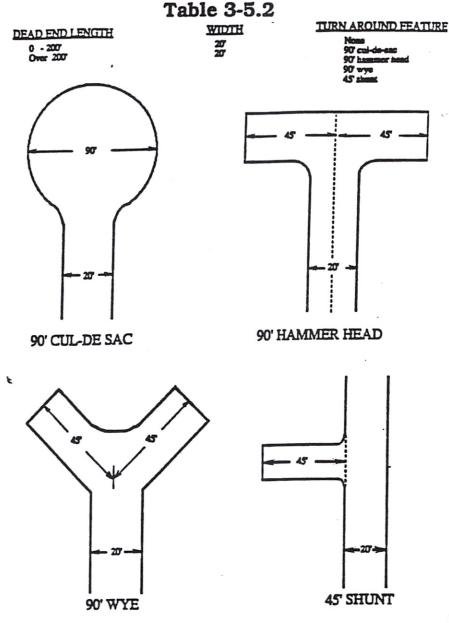
- **3-2.4.1 Temporary Use.** Extension cords shall not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.
- **3-2.4.2 Conditions of Use.** Extension Cords are permitted only with portable appliances or fixtures. While in immediate use:
- 1. Each extension cord shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle and shall, except for approved multiplying extension cords, serve only one appliance or fixture.
- 2. The current capacity of the cord shall not be less than the rated capacity of the appliance or fixture.
- **3.** The extension cord shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.
- **4.** The extension cord shall be of the grounded type when servicing grounded appliances or fixtures.
- **3-2.4.3 Limitations.** Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be affixed to structures, extend through walls, ceilings, floors, under doors or floor coverings, nor be subject to environmental damaging physical impact.
- **3-2.5 Multiple Adapters.** The use of multiplug adapters such as multiplug extension cords, cube adapters, strip plugs or any other device that do not comply with this Code or the electrical code, is prohibited.
- **3-2.6** Access. A minimum of 30 inches (762 mm) of clearance shall be provided in front of electrical control panels for access.

**3-2.7** Non approved appliances. Electrical appliances or fixtures shall not be sold, offered for sale or rent, disposed of by gift or premium, nor made available for use or used unless they are of an approved type.

### 3-2.8 Temporary Wiring

- **3-2.8.1** Temporary wiring for electrical power and lighting installations shall be permitted during the period of construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, structures, equipment or similar activities.
- **3-2.8.2** Temporary wiring for electrical power and lighting installation shall be permitted for a period not to exceed 90 days for Christmas decorative lighting, carnivals and similar purposes and for experimental development work.
- **3-2.8.3** When temporary wiring is attached to a structure, it shall be attached in an approved manner.
- 3-4.1.1 Applications for Open Burning Permits. All open burning shall be regulated in accordance with Florida Statutes, unless otherwise provided for by interlocal agreement. Applications for open burning permits may be obtained at the Fire-Rescue Station nearest the proposed burn site. Applicants shall be issued an open burning permit only upon submittal of written authorization from the Palm Beach County Health Unit, the Florida Division of Forestry, or the AHJ. Permit holders of commercial/residential land clearing, prescribed burning and agricultural burning permits shall obtain burn authorization daily from the AHJ.
- 3-5.2 Access Roadway Required. Every building hereafter constructed shall be accessible to fire department apparatus by way of access roadways with an all-weather driving surface of not less than twenty (20) feet of unobstructed width, with adequate roadway turning radius capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus and having a minimum vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches. The access roadway shall be extended to within 150 feet of all portions of the exterior walls of any building and within 200 feet

of residential buildings. Where the access roadway cannot be provided, approved fire protection system or systems shall be installed as required and approved by the AHJ. The access roadway may be extended to within 500 feet of the most remote portion of a building protected with an approved automatic fire sprinkler system. When the roadway access terminates in a dead end depth of over two hundred (200) feet, turnarounds of the following dimensions shall be provided; 90 foot diameter cul-de-sac. 90 foot wye, 45 foot shunt and 90 foot hammerhead. Diagrams of same appear in Table 3-5.2. During construction, when combustibles are brought onto the site in such quantities as deemed hazardous by the AHJ, access roads and a suitable temporary supply of water acceptable to the AHJ shall be provided and maintained.



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- 3-5.2.1 Access Roadway Obstructions. The required width of access roadways shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles. When security gates are installed across the required access roadway, sufficient width shall be maintained to allow passage by all emergency vehicles, but in no case shall the access width be less than 15 feet. The security gate shall be fitted with a Fire Department approved entry system. Owners and/or property representatives shall be required to identify, mark, and maintain fire lanes. Installation of "No Parking - Fire Lane Palm Beach County Fire Code" signs and pavement markings reading "No Parking - Fire Lane By County Ordinance", visible from the normal flow of traffic shall be installed and maintained. A maximum distance of thirty-seven feet, six inches (37' 6") alternating between signs and pavement markings shall be required along the entire length of the Fire Department access roadway. Pavement markings shall be painted yellow and visible to the normal flow of traffic. Letters shall be a minimum of 24 inches high, with a 4 inch wide brush stroke. The placing of signs and pavement markings shall be subject to approval by the AHJ.
- **3-5.2.2 Speed Bumps.** Speed bumps, if installed, shall not exceed a slope of three (3) inch rise in a 12 inch run and shall be spaced no closer than 75 feet apart.
- 3-5.2.3 Loading Zones in Fire Lanes. Fire lanes fronting a retail establishment may have loading zones. Each zone shall not exceed 25 feet in length nor shall the combined loading zone footage exceed 20 percent of the building frontage. Loading zones shall be located no closer than 75 feet apart, with a maximum 15 minute time limit imposed.
- **3-5.2.4 Modifications to Fire Lane Clearances.** When approved by the AHJ, the above required clearances may be modified.
- **3-6 Fire Department Entry Systems.** The authority having jurisdiction shall have the authority to require a fire department entry system to be installed in an approved location where access to or within a structure or area is difficult. The entry system shall be a type approved by the AHJ and shall contain keys necessary to gain access as required by the AHJ. The operator of the premises shall

immediately notify the AHJ and provide new key(s) any time a lock is changed or rekeyed and a key(s) to that lock is contained in the fire department entry system box.

## 3-7.1 Building Addresses.

Approved numerical and/or alphabetical addresses shall be posted for all new and existing buildings in such a fashion that it is plainly visible and legible from the street or roadway. All address related numbers/letters shall be posted on contrasting backgrounds and shall be consistently placed when practical. All building numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight (8) inches in height.

# 3-7.1.1 Unit Identification.

- A. In multi-unit commercial buildings, all unit identification numbers/letters shall be a minimum of six (6) inches in height.
- B. In multi-family residential buildings, all unit identification numbers/letters shall be a minimum of six (6) inches in height.
- C. In multi-unit buildings, two stories and up, directional unit identification signs shall be posted outside of each elevator/stairwell. This will apply only when there is an option for direction of travel.

#### 3-7.1.2 Additional Posting.

All multi-unit buildings that can be accessed from the rear, shall have the address and unit numbers posted at the rear of the building. When property layout, landscaping, or driveway design limits the visibility of the address, additional signs shall be posted to identify buildings or direction of travel to reach buildings. Numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of six (6) inches in height.

3-7.1.3 Addressing of Multi-Unit Buildings. In buildings which utilize a roadside marquee/signboard, the full building address shall be posted on such marquee/signboard. When the building utilizes multiple addresses, such as multiple occupant mercantile buildings, the address range shall be posted as indicated above. All marquee/signboard numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight inches in height.

**3-11.2 Daily Removal of Hazardous Storage.** Where the storage or accumulation of combustible waste matter used in stores, apartment buildings, factories or other similar places is a hazard or menace of fire, said storage of such material shall be removed daily.

### 3-14 Interior Displays.

- **3-14.1 Motor Vehicles Inside Buildings.** When a motor vehicle is displayed inside a building, the purpose of which is other than the retail sale of said motor vehicle, the following conditions must be met:
  - 1. Fuel tanks shall be drained to less than 1/4 of tank capacity; (fuel tanks for diesel powered vehicles need not be drained)
  - 2. Fuel caps shall be taped shut or fitted with a locking cap;
  - 3. The "hot" lead of the battery shall be disconnected.
- **3-14.2 Vehicles Powered by LP & CNG Gas.** Vehicles and trailers powered by liquified petroleum and compressed natural gas may be displayed inside a building when in accordance with the guidelines in NFPA58.
- 3-14.3 Display of Gasoline Powered Equipment Inside a Building Unless approved by the AHJ, gasoline powered equipment shall not be placed on display within a covered mall or a place of assembly unless a permit is obtained from the AHJ. The position of such equipment within the mall shall be subject to compliance with the conditions of the permit.

# Chapter 5 Fire Safety Construction Features

**5-1.1 Fire Separation Assemblies.** Fire separation assemblies required by this Code and/or the Building Code shall be maintained.

# Chapter 6 Fire Protection Systems and Equipment

# 6-1.4 Installation of Non-Required Fire Safety Systems and/or Equipment.

When non-required fire safety systems are to be installed, said system shall (a) be permitted; and (b) be installed as an engineered system or installed in accordance with a standard of recognized good practice. Non-required fire safety systems need not contain all design features or include all components of a required system.

**6-2.2** Exception 1: The use of Fire Department pumpers to meet the water supply requirements as specified in NFPA 14, may be accepted by the AHJ.

Exception 2: When standpipes are required by this Code, there shall be sufficient water supply to deliver 500 gallons per minute for the first riser and an additional 250 gallons per minute for all additional risers for a maximum flow of 750 gallons per minute. The required flow shall be delivered with a minimum of 65 psi at the highest standpipe location.

- **6-2.3.1** Exception: In residential type occupancies, when acceptable to the AHJ, standpipe hose cabinets may have the fire hose removed and not replaced. Cabinets shall then be marked, "Fire Extinguisher" and "FD Hose Connection".
- 6-3.2.1 Exception No. 3: In existing commercial establishments when a stove is not being used for commercial purposes, a grease removal hood system may not be required if the following alternative conditions are met: (A.) Only standard 30-inch residential stove is being used for non-commercial purposes in an existing commercial occupancy, and, (B.) A notarized Department provided affidavit shall be in the buildings file attesting to the specific use of the cooking equipment, and that it is not used for cooking foods which create grease laden vapors. and, (C.) A sign shall be posted adjacent to the cooking equipment stating the

above conditions of use. Letters in the sign are to be one (1) inch in height. Evidence documenting use contrary from the stated use shall be grounds for revocation of the approval of the alternative and compliance with NFPA 96 or removal of the cooking equipment shall be immediately required.

6-5.1.1 Fire Hydrants / Flow Required. Fire hydrants shall be provided for the protection of all buildings or portions of buildings hereafter constructed. Fire hydrants shall be provided along required fire apparatus access roadways and adjacent streets. The minimum number of hydrants available to a building shall not be less than that listed in Table 6-5.1.A. The number of hydrants available to a complex or subdivision shall not be less than that determined by spacing requirements listed in Table 6-5.1.A when applied to fire apparatus access roadways and perimeter public streets from which fire operations may be conducted. Existing hydrants on public streets may be considered available unless fire apparatus access roadways extending between properties and easements are established to prevent their obstruction. The average spacing between fire hydrants shall not exceed that listed in Table 6-5.1.A except that the AHJ may accept a deficiency of up to ten (10) percent where existing hydrants provide all or a portion of the required fire hydrant service. Regardless of the average spacing, no point on the street or access roadway adjacent to a building shall be further from a hydrant than that distance listed in the last column of Table 6-5.1.A. Plans and specifications for the installation, modification, or alterations of any on site fire service main or fire hydrant shall be submitted to the AHJ prior to installation along with hydraulic calculations, for review and approval in accordance with Tables 6-5.1 (a) through (c).

# TABLE 6-5.1 (a) NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF HYDRANTS

Fire Flow Requirement in GPM	Minimum Number of Hydrants	Average spacing between Hydrants (FT.) NOTES 1,2,4	Max Distance From Hydrant to any Pt. on St. or Rdway frontage, Note 3
750 - 1,500	1	500	250
1,500 - 2,499	2	450	225
2,500 - 2,999	3	450	225
3,000 - 3,499	3	400	225
3,500 - 4,499	4	350	210
4,500 - 5,000	5	300	180

#### NOTES

- 1. Reduce by 100 feet for dead end streets or roadways.
- 2. Where streets are provided with median dividers which can be crossed by firefighters pulling hose lines, or where arterial streets are provided with four or more traffic lanes, hydrant spacing shall average 500 feet on each side of the street and be arranged on an alternating basis.
- 3. Reduce by 50 feet for dead end streets or roadways.
- 4. Where new water mains are extended along streets where hydrants are not needed for protection of structures or similar fire problems, fire hydrants shall be provided at not greater than 1,500 foot spacing to provide for transportation hazards.
- 5. Hydrants shall be within 500 feet of the most remote portion of buildings, measured by vehicular access and building perimeter.
- **Exception to Note 5:** Freestanding buildings not less than 50 feet from another structure and less than 2,500 square feet and not exceeding 12 feet in height, are not required to provide a fire hydrant within 500 feet of that building.
- 6. In developments of wholly one-and-two family dwellings, hydrant spacing may be increased to a maximum of 1,000 square feet when all dwellings are equipped with an approved fire sprinkler system.

# TABLE 6-5.1 (b) FIRE FLOW GUIDE FOR BUILDING OTHER THAN ONE-AND-TWO FAMILY DWELLING

ONE-AND-TWO FAMILI DWELLING							
FIRE FLOW IN	S.B.C. Type I OR	S.B.C. Type IV OR V	S.B.C. TYPE III OR VI	S.B.C. TYPE IV OR V	S.B.C. TYPE IV		
GPM	п	PROTECTED	PROTECTED	UNPROTECTED	UNPROTECTED		
1,500	22,700	12,700	8,200	5,900	3,600		
1,750	30,200	17,000	10,900	7,900	4,500		
2,000	38,700	21,800	12,900	9,800	6,200		
2,250	48,300	24,200	17,400	12,600	7,700		
2,500	59,000	33,200	21,300	15,400	9,400		
2,750	70,900	39,700	25,500	18,400	11,300		
3,000	83,700	47,100	30,100	21,800	13,400		
3,250	97,700	54,900	35,200	25,900	15,600		
3,500	112,700	63,400	40,600	29,300	18,000		
3,750	128,700	72,400	46,400	33,500	20,600		
4,000	145,900	82,100	52,500	37,900	23,300		
4,250	<sub>2</sub> 164,200	92,400	59,100	42,700	26,300		
4,500	183,400	103,100	66,000	47,700	29,300		
4,750	203,700	114,600	73,300	53,000	32,600		
5,000	225,200	126,700	81,100	58,600	36,000		

# TABLE 6-5.1 (c) FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS

- 1. SCOPE This table is the procedure for determining fire-flow for all buildings or portions of building hereafter constructed. This table is not intended to apply to structures other than buildings. The fire-flow requirement is the quantity of water in gallons per minute needed to control an anticipated fire in a building or group of buildings.
- 2. **DEFINITIONS- Fire Area** is the total floor area in square feet for all floor levels within the exterior walls, or under the horizontal projection of the roof of a building. Each portion of a building separated by one or more four (4) -hour area separation walls with no openings and provided with a 30-inch parapet constructed in accordance with the Building Code may be considered as separate fire areas the purposes of determining the required fire flow.
- 3. MODIFICATIONS- Fire-flow requirements may be modified downward for isolated buildings or group of buildings in rural areas or small communities where the development of full fire-flow requirements is impractical. Fire-flow may be modified upward where conditions indicate an unusual susceptibility to group fires or conflagrations. An upward modification shall not be more than twice required for the building under consideration.
- 4. FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING The minimum fire-flow requirements for one-and-two-family dwellings shall be 1,000 gallons per minute. The fire-flow requirements for all other buildings shall be based on construction type as indicated in Table 6-5.1 (b).

**EXCEPTION:** The required fire flow may be reduced up to 50% when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system, but in no case less than 750 gallons per minute. In Types I and II construction, only the three largest successive floor areas shall be used.

- **6-5.1.2 Alternatives to Required Fire Flow.** In buildings in non-developed areas of the County where fire flow requirements cannot be met due to a lack of a water supply system, an approved fire sprinkler system shall be deemed as an acceptable alternative to the fire flow requirements of this code. Such a fire sprinkler system shall be designed and installed in compliance with the appropriate N.F.P.A. standard.
- 6-5.1.3 Fire Flow in Agricultural Areas. In bona fide agricultural buildings in areas of the County where fire flow requirements cannot be met due to a lack of a water supply system, a dry hydrant/drafting site designed and installed in compliance with N.F.P.A. 1231 shall be deemed as an acceptable alternative to fire flow requirements if one (1) of the following fire protection features is also provided:
  - A. An early fire detection system installed in accordance with N.F.P.A. 72. Said system shall include smoke or heat detectors and central station monitoring.
  - B. The use of fire resistive methods and materials of construction are used in the building.
  - C. An engineered fire sprinkler system is installed with a modified water volume and pressure demand as approved by the AHJ.
- 6-5.4.3 Clearance from Fire Hydrants. No person shall place or keep any fence, growth, trash or other material within five (5) feet from all directions of any hydrant. In addition, a clear, minimum working height of seven feet six inches (7'6") shall be maintained above the area of all hydrants. Immediate access by the fire department to all hydrants shall be maintained at all times.
- 6-5.4.4 Hydrants Not Readily Visible. Wherever the AHJ determines that a hydrant is not readily visible to the arriving fire companies because of curbside parking, features of terrain, construction, plantings or other obstructions, the pavement shall be marked with a reflective blue marker to indicate the location. The marking shall be located in the traffic lane nearest to the hydrant.

On unpaved streets, a blue reflector shall be affixed to a post as close as practical to the edge of the roadway, so as to be visible.

**6-6.4.2.1** The owner or his designated agent of a property in which extinguishers are located shall be responsible for such inspection, maintenance, and recharging in accordance with State Fire Marshal Rule 4A-21.

# Chapter 7 Automatic Sprinkler Systems

# 7-1.1.1 Automatic sprinkler systems shall be installed:

- In assembly occupancies with an occupant capacity of more than three hundred (300) people. Churches with fixed seating used exclusively for worship with an occupant capacity of less than 600 people are not required to install same.
- 2. In storage occupancies where storage height exceeds twelve (12) feet.
- 3. In hazardous (Group H) occupancies as defined by the Standard Building Code.
- **4.** In health care occupancies, restrained and unrestrained.
- **5.** In detention and correctional occupancies.
- 6. In residential occupancies in accordance with NFiPA 101.
- 7. See Table 7-1.1.1 for additional sprinkler requirements.

Exception: This section shall not apply to agricultural processing and agricultural storage buildings if, after a thorough fire risk analysis by the AHJ, it is determined that a distinct hazard does not exist as set forth in Section 1-8.1 of this code. The determination shall be based on , but not limited to, the following criteria:

- 1. Limited combustibility of the structure.
- 2. Accessibility of fire apparatus to all areas of structure.
- 3. Low content fire load.

- 4. Availability of adequate water supply/distribution system.
- 5. Remoteness of building(s) to surrounding structures.
- 6. The use of fire loss prevention programs, ie. fire brigades.
- 7. Low occupant content.
- 8. Controlled public access.

TABLE 7-1.1.1

Occupancy	S.B.C. TYPES I AND II	S.B.C. TYPES III	S.B.C.	TYPE IV	S.B.C.	TYPE V	S.B.C. 7	YPE VI
			1- hour	UNPRTD	1- hour	UNPRTD	1- hour	UNPRTD
Business	25,500	25,500	21,000	17,000	21,000	14,000	10,000	7,500
Educational	18,000	18,000	18,000	12,000	18,000	12,000	12,000	8,000
Factory Industrial	50,000	31,500	31,500	21,000	22,500	15,000	15,000	10,000
Mercantile	15,000	13,500	13,500	9,000	13,500	9,000	9,000	6,000
Storage	20,000	16,000	17,000	12,000	17,000	12,000	7,500	5,000

Chart denotes the maximum area allowed, per floor and/or fire division without automatic sprinkler system.

**7-1.1.2** Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems required by this Code, or used as an alternative to a requirement of this Code, shall be installed in accordance with the appropriate NFPA Standard. In residential type occupancies where a porch or balcony exist that is a part of a living unit, the sprinkler system shall be extended to the porch or balcony.

Exception: 1 and 2 family detached dwellings.

7-2.1.1 Fire Department Notification. The Fire Department shall be notified immediately by an approved monitoring facility when any water flow occurs in a required automatic sprinkler system. This requirement does not apply to detached one and two family dwellings equipped with 13D systems nor to non-required systems.

- **7-2.2.1 Minimum Design Requirements.** All sprinkler systems shall be designed at a point not greater than 90% of the tested water supply curve.
- **7-2.2.2** All fire department connection shall be located not more than 150 feet from a fire hydrant measured along fire department vehicle access. Fire department vehicle access shall be determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

# Chapter 8 Fire Detection and Alarm Systems

- **8-1.5** Information Transmitted by Central Stations. Central stations, when reporting alarms, shall transmit to the fire department dispatch center, or other location as designated by the AHJ, the following information:
  - 1. Complete address of the alarm.
  - 2. Type of call, ie. fire alarm, water flow, medical emergency.
  - 3. Alarm users telephone number.
  - 4. Central station telephone number.
  - 5. Name of central station operator.
  - 6. Change in status of active alarms, (ie. additional signals, alarm reset).
  - 7. Any other information as requested by the fire department.
- 8-2.1.6 Zone Indicator Panels. In buildings hereafter constructed each floor shall be zoned separately. The fire alarm control panel and/or zone indicator panel shall be located inside the building within twenty five (25) feet of a door which provides direct outside access. The door shall be clearly marked "Fire Alarm Equipment" in contrasting colors. The letters shall be no less than one inch in height. An approved fire department entry system shall be provided. There shall be no intervening doors between the access door and fire alarm equipment. A zone identification diagram shall be located within the area of the fire alarm control panel.

- 8-2.2.3 Information Affixed to Fire Alarms. All buildings equipped with fire alarms shall have the following information affixed on or near the fire alarm control panel:
  - 1. Building address;
  - 2. Building Owner's name;
  - 3. Owner's Phone Numbers (Day and Night);
  - 4. Contact Person In Case of Emergency and appropriate Phone Numbers (Day and Night);
  - 5. Alarm Company/Central Station; and 24 Hour Phone Number.

The information shall be current and accurate, as well as legible and clearly visible.

# Chapter 9 Assembly Occupancies

# 9-3 Standby Firefighters or Fire Safety Specialist

Whenever it is essential for public safety in a place of public assembly or any other place where people congregate due to the number of persons, or the nature of the performance, exhibition, display, contest or activity, the AHJ may require the employment of one or more experienced firefighters, fire safety specialists, or certified police officers, to be on duty at such place. Said personnel shall be subject to the AHJ's orders at all times when so employed, and shall be in uniform and remain on duty during all times such places are open to the public, or when such activity is being conducted.

# Chapter 20 Mercantile Occupancies

**20-3 Open Flame Devices Inside a Covered Mall.** The use of open flame or flame producing devices within the mall is prohibited except under such conditions as may be approved by the AHJ.

# CHAPTER 31 Fireworks

#### 31-7 General.

**31-7.1 Fireworks Defined.** Fireworks shall be defined and regulated in accordance with Chapter 791, Florida Statutes and this Code, with the exception of public displays, which shall be regulated in accordance with this Code.

### 31-8 Permits Required.

**31-8.1 Permits for Public Display.** Permits for public display shall be regulated by the provisions of NFiPA 1123 as adopted within this Code and the following:

Any fair, association, amusement park, other organization, individual or group of individuals shall apply to the AHJ of the Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue Department for a permit for the display of fireworks at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the date of display. The application shall contain all of the following information:

- A. The exact location of the display.
- B. The number, type and size of the fireworks to be displayed.
- C. The name and qualifications of the individuals performing the display.
- D. Proof of liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 (one million dollars), minimum, in which the County is named as a co-insured party.
- E. A nonrefundable application fee of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.
- **31-8.2** Issuing of Permit. AHJ or his designee shall issue a permit to the applicant upon satisfaction of the conditions listed in section **31-8.3** Sheriff to Receive Copy of Written Permit. A copy of the written permit shall be provided to the Sheriff of the County.

# 31-9 Storage of Sparklers, Novelties, and Fireworks.

#### 31-9.1 Mercantile Occupancies and Other Retail Stores.

In rooms or areas accessible to the public, storage of sparklers and novelties shall be limited to quantities needed for display and

normal merchandising purposes but shall not exceed one (1) cubic foot of sparklers and/or novelties per one thousand (1000) square feet of gross floor area.

- **31-9.2 Storage of Sparklers or Novelties.** In rooms or areas not readily accessible to the public and normally used for the purpose of storing merchandise, the storage of sparklers and/or novelties shall be permitted under the following conditions.
  - 1. Each pile is limited to one hundred (100) cubic feet.
  - 2. Total storage does not exceed five (5) percent of the gross storage area.
  - 3. Eight (8) feet of separation on all sides of each pile is maintained.
  - 4. All storage of sparklers and/or novelties separated and isolated from flammable materials.
  - 5. Signs must be conspicuously posted, "CAUTION SPARKLERS NO SMOKING"

A one hundred (100) percent increase of allowable total storage will be allowed in fully sprinklered buildings.

31-9.3 Fireworks. Structures where fireworks, as defined by Chapter 791, Florida Statutes, are housed, stored, or sold shall be of non-combustible construction and be provided full coverage by an approved fire extinguishing system. No other occupancy which is not directly related to the principal use of the structure shall be permitted. Such structure shall be freestanding with a minimum of ten (10) feet from any contiguous building line.

#### Chapter 33

# Spray Application Using Flammable or Combustible Materials

- **33-1.1.2** Exception: Incidental spraying operations will be allowed provided the following criteria are met:
  - 1. The spray paint operation must not be the primary occupancy, but must be incidental to the major use of the building or area as determined by the AHJ.
  - 2. There shall be no accumulation of residue.

3. No ignition source shall be allowed within twenty (20) feet in any direction from the object being sprayed. This requirement shall extend from floor to ceiling.

Noncompliance with any of the above provisions shall cause the revocation of the privilege of incidental spraying operations.

# Chapter 38 Explosive Materials and Ammonium Nitrate

**38-1 Explosives Defined.** Explosives shall be defined and regulated in accordance with Chapter 552, Florida Statutes and The State Fire Marshals Rules, 4A-2.

# Chapter 42 Hazardous Materials

# 42-1 Scope.

This chapter shall apply to materials not otherwise covered in this Code which are highly flammable, or which may react to cause fires or explosions, or which by their presence create or augment a fire or explosion hazard, or which because of the toxicity, flammability, or liability to explosion render fire fighting abnormally dangerous or difficult. This chapter also applies to flammable or combustible liquids which are chemically unstable and which may spontaneously form explosive compounds, or undergo spontaneous reactions of explosive violence, or with sufficient evolution of heat to be a fire hazard. Hazardous chemicals shall include such materials as flammable solids, corrosive liquids, radioactive materials, oxidizing materials, potentially explosive chemicals, highly toxic materials and poisonous gases, as defined in this Code.

**42-2 Hazard Identification Signs.** Hazard identification signs as outlined in NFiPA 704 shall be placed at all entrances to and in locations where hazardous materials are stored, handled or used in quantities requiring a permit. Any product identified in Health by a 2, 3 or 4; in Flammability by a 3 or 4; and in Reactivity by a 2, 3 or 4 identification marking shall be considered a hazardous material.

Copies of manufacturer's chemical data sheets shall be required for each chemical complete with their 704 ID markings.

### 42-3 Materials Requirements.

# 42-3.1 Highly Toxic Materials

- **42-3.1.1 Definition.** Highly toxic materials are materials so toxic to man as to afford an unusual hazard to life and health.
- **42-3.1.2 Separation from Other Chemicals.** Highly toxic materials shall be segregated from other chemicals and combustible and flammable substances by storage in a room or compartment separated from other areas by a one-hour fire separation constructed as specified in the Building Code. The storage room shall be provided with adequate drainage facilities and natural or mechanical ventilation to the outside atmosphere constructed as specified in the Mechanical Code.
- **42-3.1.3 Warning Signs & Placards.** Legible warning signs and placards stating the nature and location of the highly toxic materials shall be posted at all entrances to areas where such materials are stored or used.

#### 42-3.2 Poisonous Gases

- **42-3.2.1 Storage Locations.** Storage of poisonous gases shall be in rooms of at least one-hour fire resistant construction as specified in the Building Code and having natural or mechanical ventilation adequate to remove leaking gas. Such ventilation shall not discharge to a point where the gases may endanger any person.
- **42-3.2.2 Warning Signs.** Legible warning signs stating the nature of the hazard shall be placed at all entrances to locations where poisonous gases are stored or used.

## 42-3.3 Corròsive Liquids.

**42-3.3.1 Storage Requirements.** Acids or corrosive liquids in quantities greater than 1 carboy or barrel shall be separated as per Section 407 of the Building Code by one-hour construction for sulfuric, nitric, or hydrofluoric acids or other acids of like hazardous characteristics. Rooms designed to store corrosive liquids shall have concrete floors designed to drain to a sump capable of containing a spill from two carboys of acid. The room shall be designed to provide

a liquid tight sill or ramp measuring 4 inches, constructed of brick or concrete around the enclosing walls. A sign shall be posted at the door opening to the room, with letters not less than 3 inches high reading: ACID STORAGE. The acid storage room shall be vented to the outside air by natural or mechanical ventilation capable of a complete air change every five (5) minutes. The door shall be provided with a self-closing device.

**42-3.3.2 Security of Outside Storage Areas.** Acid storage outside of the building in a lot or yard shall be enclosed by a tight and secure fence of wire mesh, 6 feet high and posted with signs of 3-inch letters reading ACID STORAGE. Outside storage shall be allowed only when allowed by the zoning ordinance and approved by the Building Official.

**42-3.3.3 Outside Storage Diking.** Quantities of acids or corrosive liquids stored outside, in above ground tanks shall be diked to contain the quantity being stored. Quantities in excess of 2 gallons per sq ft and stored inside buildings or rooms shall be classified as Special Hazardous Material and required to comply with Section 408.5 of the Building Code.

**42-3.3.4 Quantity Limits for Public Displays** Acids and corrosive liquids allowed for public display and sale shall be limited to 55 gallons or less. Other quantities shall be stored per section **42-3.3.3**.

Table 42-1

Material/	Solid	Liquid	Gas
Condition	(Ib)	(gal)	(cu ft)
Corrosive	1000	55	0
Highly Toxic	0	0	0
Irritant	1000	100	0
Other Health Hazards	55	55	0
Toxic	125	125	0
Unstable Reactive			
Class 4	0	0	0
Class 3	0	0	0
Class 2	100	10	0
Class 1	500	55	0
Water Reactive			
Class 3	0	0	N/A
Class 2	100	10	N/A
Class 1	500	55	N/A

N/A-Not Applicable

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<sup>1.</sup> A zero indicates that any amount of material requires a permit.

42-4 Alarm System.

Where highly toxic materials, poisonous gases, or corrosive liquids are stored or used in such quantity as to constitute a distinct hazard to the surrounding community, such storage or usage shall be provided with an approved automatic leak detection system connected to a local alarm.

**42-4.1 Supervision.** When alarm, emergency signal, or detection systems are required by this code, such systems shall be supervised by an approved central, proprietary, or remote station service or shall initiate an audible and visual signal at a constantly attended on-site location.

### 42-5 Laboratories Using Chemicals.

Laboratories shall be designed, protected and operated in compliance with NFiPA 45.

### 42-6 Recovery of Costs.

Any person responsible for causing or allowing an unauthorized discharge of hazardous materials that requires emergency action by Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue or its authorized agents shall be jointly and severely liable to Palm Beach County for the costs incurred by the county in investigating, mitigating, removing, and abating any such discharge. The person responsible for the discharge and/or the owner of the property shall reimburse the county for the full amount of said costs, as defined herein, within thirty (30) days after receipt of an itemized bill for such costs from the county.

Any person who fails to reimburse Palm Beach County within the time set forth above shall be subject to a fine equal to the greater of \$250.00 per day or ten (10%) percent of the total amount of the bill for each additional day that the bill for such costs remains unpaid.

# Chapter 43 Referenced Publications

**43-1.1.1** NFPA 46 Recommended Safe Practice for Storage of Forest Products, 1996 edition, is hereby adopted as a standard. **43-1.1.2** NFPA 55, Storage Use and Handling of Compressed and Liquified Gases in Portable Cylinders, 1993 edition, is hereby

adopted as a standard.

STATE CORDA, COUNTY OF PALM BEACH I DOF I AND WILKEN, ex-dificio Cierk of the Board Commissioners cartify this to be a true and the Act copy of the original field in my office on 7/2/98.

DATED at West Palm Beach, FL on 3/17/98.

DOROTHY H. WILKEN, Clerk

By: D.C.